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American Express 19640 North 31st Avenue Phoenix, AZ 85027

July 30, 2019

Docket No. RU-00000A-18-0284

Arizona Corporation Commission

DOCKETED

**COMMISSIONERS:** 

Chairman Bob Burns Andy Tobin Boyd Dunn Justin Olson Sandra D. Kennedy JUL 3 0 2019

DOCKETED BY

In the matter of possible modification to the Arizona Corporation Commission's Energy Rules

Re: Docket Number RU-00000A-18-0284, American Express' Support for Increased Renewable Energy Standard

## Dear Commissioners:

Established in 1850 as a U.S. express delivery service, American Express has remained a leader for generations by embracing both innovation and tradition. As the company has grown and evolved, sometimes reinventing the business outright, American Express has never strayed from the customer-service ethos and values on which the company was built: trust, security, integrity, respect, customer commitment, and good citizenship,

Our history in Arizona began in 1961 when we opened our first travel office in Phoenix. Almost six decades later, American Express is one of the largest employers in the Valley. Phoenix also is American Express' largest U.S. location with over 7,700 colleagues representing more than 15 lines of business. The teams comprising American Express' operations in Phoenix are some of the widest-ranging and most varied functions that help the company drive toward its vision of providing the world's best customer experience every day.

Recently named one of the *Top Eco Friendly Companies to Watch in Phoenix 2019*, we know one of the most significant ways to back our stakeholders is to do our part to protect and sustain the environment on which life depends.

We therefore prioritize the management and improvement of our own environmental footprint, including the impacts of our offices and operations. We also are powering our network and data centers more efficiently and with the use of renewable resources. In 2018, we became a Carbon Neutral® company by employing renewable energy credits, carbon offsets, and reduced greenhouse gas emissions, and we obtained 100% of our electricity needs from renewable sources. We are committed to maintaining these efforts moving forward.

As the Greater Phoenix region gets closer to becoming a major tech hub, it's important that Arizona considers renewable energy technologies that not only have a much lower environmental impact, but also increase energy independence and drive economic development. For many companies like our own, renewable energy is the future.

We appreciate the opportunity to provide these comments and thank the Commissioners for considering our views.

Sincerely,

David Woody

Senior Vice President and Unit CIO

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**American Express**